

POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1998

PVRC MEETINGS CALENDAR

weekly Wed BWI Regional weekly breakfast. Wednesdays 7:30 am,
Basil's Deli, Elkridge Landing Rd near BWI

Feb 5 Thu PVRC/NC meeting at Luna's Restaurant in Raleigh at 6p

Feb 9 Mon Central meeting at the Library in Vienna, VA at 7:30 pm

Feb 13 Fri South West Virginia (PVRC/SWVA),
Denny's in West Salem, VA at 6:00 pm.

Feb 17 Tue North-west meeting, Legends Restr, Frederick, MD at 8pm

Feb 17 Tue Tidewater Colony meeting with VA-DXCC,
D&M Seafood, Newton/Va Beach Rds.

Feb 21/22 ARRL CW, PVRC club competition. Pse work VP2EEI

Mar 5 Thu PVRC/NC meeting at Luna's Restaurant in Raleigh, NC

Mar 9 Mon Central meeting at the Church of the Nativity
(Episcopal), Route 5, Temple Hills, MD at 7:30 pm

PVRC Contest Calendar for February by Tyler Stewart K3MM

Log Deadlines:

Please report all PVRC scores to N3II. All scores must be complete and accurate, including a list of operators for multi's. Scores not reported to N3II will not be eligible for 5 million award points!

February 10th	NAQP CW	Email call.log, call.sum to
February 17th	NAQP Phone	Email call.log, call.sum to
February 18th	ARRL VHF SS	Email call.log, call.sum, call.dup to
February 28th	CQWW 160 CW	Email call.log, call.sum, call.dup to
March 1st	NA Sprint SSB	Email call.log, call.sum, call.dup to

February 7-8

Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Kansas, and Delaware QSO Parties

Feb 7 0000Z to Feb 8 2400Z

Exchange: RST and QTH (county or state)

A whole mess of QSO parties held concurrently. Help out our Delaware members with a QSO!

North American Sprint - CW

Feb 8 0000Z to 0400Z

Frequencies: 3540, 7040, 14040 (80/40/20 meters only)

(see phone rules and tips from last month)

Official rules available at the NCJ web page: <http://www.waterw.com/~ncj/>

February 14-15

WW RTTY WPX Contest

Feb 14 0000Z to Feb 15 2400Z

Exchange: RST and QSO Number

Frequencies: 3580 and up, DX 7025-7045 & 7080 and up, +/- 14080, +/- 21080, +/- 28080

One of the larger RTTY contests with lots of DX participation and efforts from PVRC RTTYers. As with all RTTY contests, any QSO counts for points and keeping with the WPX tradition, QSO's on 40 and 80 are worth double! Spotting is allowed for all classes. Complete rules are available at <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/htmlrules/wpqrtty.html> .

Asia-Pacific Sprint Contest - CW

Feb 14 1230-1430Z

Exchange: RST and QSO number

Frequencies: 14030-14050, 7015-7040 (20/40 meters only)

Similar to the NA sprint with 150watt limit and a QSY rule. Work only Asia-Pacific stations. Work once per band and score is QSO's times Prefixes worked. Complete rules at <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/rules/sprintoc.txt>

Dutch PACC Contest (Mixed Mode)

Feb 14 1200Z to Feb 15 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) + QSO Number (+ Dutch Province)

Frequencies: 160 through 10 meters (no 160 SSB allowed)

Work only Dutch stations (PA/PB/PI) once per band regardless of mode.

Mults counted once per band. Complete rules at the PACC web page:

<http://home.wxs.nl/~pa3ebt/>

February 21-22

ARRL International DX Contest - CW

Feb 21 0000Z to Feb 22 2400Z *Club Competition* - 5 Million Award

Exchange: RST + State/Province or TX Power for DX

Frequencies: 160 through 10 meters

US/VE works DX only and DX only works US/VE. Work each station once per band. Mults for US/VE are DXCC countries per band so good coverage of all the bands is important for a big score. New Club Competition rules allow Dxpeditons to count for PVRC as long as they meet the normal criteria that 2/3rds of the operators are PVRC members from the PVRC area.

Remember that ARRL requires club members to attend 2 meetings in the previous year, so make sure you have met your quota! New members within the past 12 months automatically qualify. Multi-Singles and Multi-Twos should note that the 10 minute rule has been dropped in favor of a 6 band change per hour rule. Contest rules available at

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/98/intldx.html> .

Be sure and follow the links to the General and HF rules as well. Let's kick some butt!

February 27 - March 1

CQWW 160 Meter Contest - SSB

Feb 27 2200Z to Mar 1 1600Z *Club Competition* - 5 Million Award

Exchange: RST and QTH (State/Province/Country Prefix)

With DX heavily weighted, it's important to do well into Europe, as well as collecting multipliers. QSO's outside your own continent are worth 10 points versus only 2 for you own country and 5 for the same continent. Rules available at <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/htmlrules/cqww160.html> .

North Carolina QSO Party

Feb 28 1200-2359Z and Mar 1 1200-2359Z

Exchange: Callsign, QSO Number, and QTH (county or state/etc.)

Frequencies:

CW - 3450, 3740, 7040, 7140, 14040, 21040, 21140, 28040, 28140

SSB - 3860, 7260, 14260, 21360, 28360

VHF and UHF simplex QSO's also allowed.

Work stations on each band/mode/county combination. Look for possible

PVRC member activity. Complete rules and forms at:

<http://www.netpath.net/~n4mio/qsoparty.htm>

March 7-8

ARRL International DX Contest - SSB

Mar 7 0000Z to Mar 8 2400Z

Club Competition - 5 Million Award

(See CW listing above)^i& then kick some more butt!

Contest Tip of the Month

Preparation is key to a successful effort. Read the rules well in advance of the contest to help formulate strategies and insure compliance. If you are new to a contest, ask someone who has done well in it before for keys to success. Make sure your station is ready to go well in advance of the start of the contest, including the radios, computers loaded and running with fully configured software and keyers, antennas tested and tuned, and operators fully scheduled for a multi. Get lots of sleep for several days before the contest and, if possible, a nap prior to the start. Food and drink is all important. Many operators tout "carbo-loading" before a contest, choosing pasta etc., as a pre-contest dinner. Most recommend staying away from caffeine and sugar as much as possible, saving them for late in the contest if at all. I find I do best by eating and drinking as lightly as possible during a contest. I try to avoid drinking more than necessary (which means avoiding the bathroom trip in the middle of a hot run!) and usually have a box of low fat crackers or pretzels at hand and reserved mostly for slow times. Dry-roasted peanuts are also one of my favorites. Keep a cooler nearby if you like or your favorite hot drink, but keep in mind that tea and diet drinks with Nutrasweet are known diuretics, which may mean a lot of extra trips to the bathroom. Whatever you do, don't eat any large or heavy meals or you'll never make it through to the end.

MINUTES OF 12/8/97 CHRISTMAS MEETING by Rich Boyd, KE3Q

The annual PVRC Christmas dinner was held Monday, December 8, 1997 at the Olive Garden Restaurant, Route 7, Tyson's Corner, Virginia. 80 contesters and spouses were present. The food was good and inexpensive. Some of us had the conveniently timed coupons from the Sunday newspaper. After dinner, KE3Q presented an abbreviated version of the A6/A4 slide show and K3ZO gave installment two of his tales of international ham radio adventure, focusing on the time he was shot and kidnapped by terrorists in

Argentina. We're fortunate to have Fred still with us! Amy says he needs to write a book! See you at next year's annual dinner!

Attendees were: W3LEO, K1DQV/3, WB2BZR, N3HIH, W3GN, K3WX, W3X E, KA3QPG, WI2T, W3GNQ, W3ZZ, ND3F, N3OC, W3YD, W3DAD, W3XY, N9IIC, W3MC, NJ4F, NB1B, K4VV, K7MPP, KT4W, W3EMH, W3CQH, AA3LE, AA3KY, K3RV, N3TG, W4VC, KB4EDU, KT3Y, K3NA, K3DI & N3FZB, K3ZO, K2UOP/8, K8OQL, N4RV, K3OSX, K1HTV, EX-KN1WSN, W3HVQ & YL, W3AZ, W3UJ, KD3VK, W3DQ, ND3A, WR3L, W8ZA, N3PZV, W1HIR, K4IQ, W3LPL, K3SW, N3DMJ, K3SA, W3GG, K3KY, N3AM, W0CN, W0QED, K3MM & XY3L, K3ZJ, W4LIP, N3RR & XYL, K3LP, KC3VO, W3YOZ, W3EKT, KE3Q, N3MIL (now W3AMY), and 5 others who did not sign the book.

A few quick words from the Prez^i^kTy, K3MM

This month we are publishing the complete rules for the 5 Million Award. Please read them carefully! I want to point out a few things about this award for emphasis.

First, it is based on claimed scores designated for PVRC. In order for you to get credit, you must make a complete and accurate report to N3II. This means that Multi's must submit their list of operators to insure proper credit and you must list your category. Please do not submit estimated numbers. If you make a change to your numbers as submitted to the sponsor, please update them with N3II. If you guest op a station, please make it clear who's station it was so they can also receive proper credit. Your score must be submitted to the sponsor for PVRC and must qualify for PVRC under their club competition rules. For ARRL multi's this also means that 2/3rds of the operators must be PVRC members or it will not count toward PVRC or the award.

Secondly, the scoring may seem confusing at first. However, I'm fairly confident that it will become clearer after we get the first listings out. I'm quite certain that this was the most equitable way to handle scoring. In addition, we can always make adjustments on an annual basis if we discover particular problems with either the schedule or weighting of scores. N4ZR will have complete listings available shortly, which will be posted on the PVRC web page and email reflectors. Regional chairmen will also have listings available at meetings.

One other thing that needs to be addressed is the accuracy of the membership list. Email addresses and regional selections need to be selected and/or updated for a lot of members. All officers and regional chairmen were recently sent a copy of the membership list. Please make sure your data is correct and kept up to date. If you make a change, please inform W2GG or your regional chairman about the change

PVRC 5-MILLION AWARD

Purpose: To recognize outstanding and ongoing support by members of the Club in significant amateur radio contests which sponsor club competition.

Eligibility: Any member of PVRC is eligible for this award. Eligible contests will be those listed for that season in the PVRC Club Competition Calendar. Scores must meet the contest sponsor's criteria for club competition in order to be counted for the 5 Million Award. Complete

contest entries must be submitted to the contest sponsor within the sponsor's deadline for that contest and summary sheets must identify the Potomac Valley Radio Club to receive the club points.

Period: All qualified contest scores after July 1, 1997 will count towards the award. Initial awards and endorsements will be processed once a year based on Award Points as of June 30th. All Award points are cumulative and do not expire.

Scoring: The claimed scores actually submitted to the contest sponsor will be the basis for the 5 Million Award Points. Normalizing will be used on all claimed scores to calculate points for the 5 Million Award. The process for normalizing will be to take the highest domestic PVRC single operator claimed score for a contest, known as the Reference Score, and assign it a value of 1 million points. All other scores will be calculated as a fraction of this Reference score using the formula:

$$\text{Contest Score/Reference Score} \times 1,000,000 = \text{Award Points}$$

Each operator of an eligible Multi-operator entry may claim a share of that score for his Award total using the formula:

$$\text{Normalized Multi Score} / \text{number of operators} = 1 \text{ Share Award Points}$$

In addition, any multi-op entry with two or more operators will be awarded double their Share Award Points for each operator. (No bonus for single-op plus packet)

To encourage station owners to host PVRC operators, we are offering owners Matching Award Points. Any station owner who hosts PVRC operator(s) who generate(s) an eligible score, will receive Matching Award Points equal to that operator(s) Award Points (double points apply for hosts of multi's as well).

Under no circumstances will anyone receive Award Points for more than one operation during a particular contest. If more than one Award Points score is generated to a single member, they will receive the single highest score of the group only.

Note that each eligible contest will be scored separately using the Reference Score unique to that contest.

All 5 Million Award points are cumulative for the duration of the program.

Reporting: Unless otherwise specified, each claimed score must be reported to the designated PVRC Club Score Recorder (currently Dave, N3II) within 45 days of the end of the contest. Claimed scores reported should exactly represent the score you submit to the contest sponsor for credit. If you make a correction to your original claimed score, please send the updated information to the Score Recorder. All submissions must contain a complete list of operators callsigns and the station host callsign if different.

Awards: The 5 Million Award will be an endorseable plaque earned after reaching a total of at least 5 million Award Points and will be presented

within 6 months of the anniversary date of the program. Additional endorsements will be available for higher levels. Achievement certificates may also be issued.

Disclaimers: All rules, scores, results, and awards are subject to the scrutiny and decision of the Club officers and their determinations will be final. (Rev 012498)

CENTRAL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 12TH by Rich Boyd, KE3Q, Secretary

The January 12, 1998 meeting in Temple Hills, Maryland attracted 18 attendees plus one additional one at the dinner beforehand at Topolino's making 19 contesters in all: W0CN, K3MM, KE3Q, WR3L, N3KTV, N3NT, W3CP, N3AFT, W3MC, WR3Z, N3WZR, W3LPL, W3AZ, K3ZO, W3TOM, WK3I, K3MLA, W3HVQ, and K3HH. New calls: W3TOM was formerly WA3TAI, and K3MLA was formerly WB6VGI (and still is KG4ML/Guantanamo Bay, Cuba). N3WZR was our only guest, one of the users on the KE3QZ Southern Maryland packetcluster node. The new President, K3MM, presided. Members reported on their individual activities as follows: W3HVQ, 1.07M points in CQWW CW, first time breaking a million points. His 4-1000 homebrew amp breaks down once in a while but is a lot of fun.

K3ZO was in the low band JA test, made 65 QSOs, is looking forward to the VHF test, praying for rain to kill his line noise. W3TOM noted his new call sign (with his name in it, in case you didn't notice).

WR3Z, no activity lately because of work (at Patuxent River NAS). Gave ND3F an FM rig, so he can't get on in the VHF test. ND3F also borrowed one of K3MM's radios. (ND3F seems to be our most avid VHF contest rover at present.)

WK3I made about the same QRP score in the ARRL 160 contest as the year before and hopes for #1 World QRP. In the 10M contest he went low power mixed mode and bettered his score over the previous year by 98K. Rich noted the upcoming CQ 160, where the scoring is skewed towards Europe.

N3WZR noted he's a first time attendee, uses the KE3QZ packetcluster node. Nice to have some southern Marylanders joining in our activities!

N3AFT says he played around in the RTTY test. I think Mike has attended a northwest regional meeting. W3TOM noted his new call sign (with his name in it, in case you didn't notice).

W3AZ was in the ARRL 160 part time, 330 QSOs and in CQWW CW. He had NB1B over guest operating in SS phone and they both enjoyed the experience.

W3MC made 750 QSOs in the ARRL 160. Also operated CQWW and SS from his new two-tower station.

K3MLA spoke about the possibilities of going to Guantanamo to operate. He can help you make arrangements...air fare is about \$700 round trip.

K3HH will be taking his daughter to West Virginia and then hopes to operate the VHF contest as part of the K3IVO team.

WR3L, was joined by the other remaining "Washington Redskins" (call sign prefix) station, WR3Z (WR3E became W3UR last year) for CQWW, one of the weekends anyway, for 1.7M points, the best score from his station yet.

N3KTV, our out-going treasurer (WR3L is the new one for '98) enjoyed the September VHF contest as part of the K3MQH team (220 op I think). Treasurer's duties and family obligations have kept him off the air. He'll be with K3MQH again for the January VHF contest. Jim is active in JOTA and other scout activities.

N3NT was in the 10M contest from K3VOA, giving out the D.C. mult. Craig now has a 160 antenna so did the ARRL 160. He did NAQP using two radios for the first time, says 15% of the QSOs were on the second one, "I definitely think it's worth it." He says it was "a stress producer the first few times" he tried to do it, though.

W3CP was in the 160 test, did as well as last year. I noticed Jim's previous call, W3CPB, in the Sweepstakes results from 40 years ago! Jim says his first Sweepstakes was actually about 1933. Wow!

W3LPL noted K8GP ("the grid pirates") would be operating from "the Glenwood mountain top" this time for the VHF contest, a first. They set up several towers in Frank's side yard (about three acres of ground) the previous weekend. I believe KA3EJJ's plans to join them with a trailer mounted 100' crankup were changed, due to the soggy ground. Frank expected disaster on the packetcluster network with the several 1500 watt VHF stations on the air there, but everything seemed to be perfectly normal after all.

K3MM said "I've been doing way too much operating lately and no antenna work." Ty put up a full wave loop for 80 meters on his new tower that had no antennas on it, the apex at 175'! (tower is presently 180'). The antenna is in a diamond configuration, the top at 175', the bottom at 100'. He put it up right before CQWW, finished on Friday and it worked fairly well he says, and better than his inverted vee at 100'. Ran Europe for about an hour during CQWW on 80. But...he fell asleep at the wrong time, 7 AM Saturday. Ty noted 10M was in good shape. In SS he noted his 2-el 40M wire beam at 70' fixed west worked well...his 125' high 2-el Cushcraft 40 always seemed "a little long" (too high to work close in stuff well) for SS. Low dipole at 45' was definitely the best during the day, but it could use a reflector (below it). At 70' a wire beam fixed NE didn't do anything.

KE3Q noted the upcoming contests, VHF and CQ 160. K3MM thanked KE3Q for being president the previous 3 years. KE3Q thanked PVRC for the honor.

K3MM spoke of his priorities, as president, for '98: intra-club awards and communication and coordination with the regions, getting regions to talk to each other more, finding a key person in each new region to get things going. The five million award is being resurrected, new and refurbished. Ty says a low priority is rewriting the bylaws but it needs to be done.

W2GG was named membership secretary. He's already done a lot of work gleaning logs for recruits within the region.

N4ZR will be awards coordinator, is making spread sheets, etc. to keep track of people's progress toward the five million award (and beyond it for endorsements). Pete will work with N3II, who has been collecting scores after contests.

N3KTV applauds WR3L's election as treasurer. Jim (N3KTV) gave a report on the blackboard on the club finances. There was \$2,200 of income in '97, a \$100 surplus. We think there were no QSL or tee shirt orders in '97, which kept the revenues down a little. And, we have not been pushing members for donations. K3MM notes the anticipated expense of 5 million award plaques, when we begin awarding them sometime late in '98 and on into '99. We will be encouraging donations at appropriate times.

WR3L noted he plans a booth at the Baltimore Hamfest with W2GG, to introduce PVRC and the packetcluster to folks.

K3MM fielded questions on the 5 million award. There had been some complaints from multiops that their portions would be too low. Revisions will be done in response.

N3NT noted a QSL order will be put in soon, with a January 15 target date. The new logo is being cleaned up for embroidery purposes. At the time of the meeting there were 27,000 cards ordered. (By the time I'm writing up these minutes, N3NT reports the order is in, with 38,000 cards for 34 different call signs).

K3IXD resigned as cap/shirt salesman for the club. We need a new volunteer.

KE3Q discussed the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee topics. PVRC may want to petition the CAC on out of area and/or DXpeditions counting for the club in SS (noting K4MA's KP2 and/or KP4 operations, W3LPL at KH7R, WV3B/Arkansas, K4VV/Alabama), multi-multi score allocation when members of different clubs are operating, and 6 band change per hour multi-single rules).

K3MM seeks input for the 50-year PVRC book being handled by W3LEO. W3LEO is following the format of the 25-year book as a starting point, with appropriate updates, additions, enhancements as they occur to us. K3MM noted the two-hour PVRC 50-year QSO party New Year's Eve was a lot of fun, with sufficient activity to increase it to four hours in the future.

KE3Q showed the A6/A4 slide show, emphasizing in this showing the tower and antenna part of things, and the meeting adjourned at about 9:30 PM.

CLUB DONATIONS REPORT by Dave Baugher, WR3L, Treasurer

We would like to thank the following for the donation to PVRC in January: K1HTV, K1DQU, W0SS, WB4FDT, W4LIP, K3NA, AA4KD, K3OSX, W3YOZ, W4HM, K1GG, W4JLS, W8ZA, K4ZW, K3ZO, W8BOZ, N3NT, W3LPL, WR3Z, KE3Q, KK4WQ, W3HVQ, W4DM, K4UX, W4YE, AJ3M, W4ZYT, W3CP, NW3K, K3SO, ND3A, W4DR, and W4IF. The donation/dues are most appreciated and needed, keep them coming.

PVRC/NC MEETING MINUTES 1/7/98 by Pete Soper, KS4XG, [\[email protected\]](#).

Site. The meeting was held (this month only) at the Fox and Hound in Cary 18:00-20:45. A half dozen carried on outside the restaurant until 21:30.

Attendees. AA4NC/W4MR, Will; K2AV, Guy; K4HA, Bob; K4MA, Jim; K4QPL, Jim; K7GM, Rick Niswander; KF4ARS, Kemp Brinson; KF4MOK, Dave; KS4XG, Pete (secretary); N3QYE, Jim; N4CW, Bert (chairman); N4TL, Tom; NT4D, Jay; W2CS, Gary; and WB4HFL, Henry

Membership. This was the second meeting of Tom Lewis, N4TL, sponsored by N4CW. Welcome to PVRC Tom! This was the first meeting of general class amateur Kemp Brinson, a student at NCSU and enthusiastic member of recent contesting efforts at the school club station. Welcome Kemp! This was also the first meeting of amateur extra Rick Niswander, K7GM who's reputation proceeds him. Rumors of VOA antenna usage (he lives in Greenville) and plans for superstations with N4AF were rampant. Welcome Rick! Chapter membership is now 22.

Club business and announcements. N4CW announced that as this was a special celebration meeting we'd minimize the regular format. December minutes were approved. (Special note: As almost everything in the meeting was covered by handouts, minutes are abbreviated this month. Copies of the handouts are in the mail to chapter members who couldn't attend. KS4XG actually noticed what he was eating at this meeting). There was a brief discussion of publishing a chapter directory with mixed feelings about the value of this (strong negative about putting anything on the web site).

Presentations. KS4XG gave a brief synopsis of N4AF's organization of the chapter in mid '96 and the subsequent growth in membership and contesting activity (handouts).

When the 6/96 W3LPL visit was mentioned there was interest in repeating this and other visits to the "PVRC homeland" this year. KS4XG explained that the impending birth of his daughter kept him from W3LPL last year but he won't have that excuse and can carry three passengers in June.

KS4XG and N4CW went over K3MM's rules and schedule for the PVRC "5 Million Award". It was agreed that Bert will forward questions and comments about this program to K3MM. Key points mentioned are the normalizing of points based on a top score and that endorsements for multiple "5 millions" will be provided.

N4CW distributed info about upcoming contests, stressing the importance of participation no matter how serious an effort may be and K4MA solicited for NAQP teams (handouts).

K4MA talked about his recent contesting accomplishments, focusing on SS and the ARRL 10m test. He thanked AA4NC, K4HA and others for the use of their stations and support as all his '97 efforts were as a guest op. Jim shared a number of photos from his SS effort at WP2Z and described antennas and other details of his preparation. Jim predicts a new SS all time record score will be set by a Carib station in the near future. (handouts)

Member activities. We just had time for members to identify themselves this month. K2AV described his unexpected receipt of a Texas Towers amp and solicited buyers.

Next Meeting. The next PVR/NC meeting will be 6pm Thursday February 5th at Luna's Pizza in Raleigh. Directions to Luna's Pizza (3227 Avent Ferry Rd, 919 854 9600):

>From the Raleigh Beltline coming South past Crabtree, pass the Hillsborough St exit and then take the second Western Blvd exit toward NC State and Downtown (East). Proceed 0.8 Miles East to a right at the second onto Gorman Street. 1.3 miles later take a right at the light onto Avent Ferry. Take the next left to the strip mall with Lunas. From East Raleigh, taking Beltline along south side to the Gorman st exit and go right. At the first light the strip mall and Luna's is on the left.

NW MEETING MINUTES - January 20, 1998 by Tyler Stewart K3MM
([\[email protected\]](#))

In attendance were members K3MM, W3ZZ, NE3H, WA3IKK, K3IXD, WD3A, W8ZA, K3SX, N3HBX, WI2T, KA3QPG, K3DNE (ex-WB2DNE), N3KTV, and N5OKR.

K3DNE (ex-WB2DNE), Ed, was active in the past weekends January VHF SS contest on 6 through 1296 with an approximate score of 100k points. Ed has a new tiltover tower planned for 98!

NE3H, Joe, gave out some points in the VHF contest.

K3IXD, Ed, borrowed K3DNE's 6 meter beam and W3EKT's 432 beam and made 182Q's and 34 Grids for 6970 points.

WD3A, Tom, will be on for the CQWW 160 CW contest and is putting up an Inverted L for the occasion.

W8ZA, Bob, also has plans to be active during the 160M contest.

K3SX, Sid, was please to work both Dakotas on 6 meters in the VHF contest and will, of course, be active in the 160M contest coming up.

N3HBX, John, is still off VHF and up, having technical problems with his FT736.

WI2T, Jeff, blew fuses all weekend attempting to run his VHF gear from a cigarette lighter adapter! He made 270k points in the 10 meter contest from W3GNQ's station, and will operate from W3ZZ's QTH for the 160 contest.

KA3QPF, Joel, was busy blowing fuses with Jeff during the VHF contest. Joel requests that we have a contest software seminar at a future meeting.

N3KTV, Jim, did his usual 220Mhz thing from K3MQH in the ice and snow. He noted that everything looked fine Saturday morning until he drove up the final hill to the contest site. About 100 feet from the top, all of a sudden everything was covered in a thick layer of ice! Friday, during setup of 432, there was a loud bang as Jim was tuning up the 432 amp

again! Apparently a tube had arced over to the screen, taking out the screen supply. After replacing a bunch of components and new tubes on Saturday morning, the amp played FB all weekend.

N5OKR, Greg, was in an accident with his truck in September just one week before getting married. He reported that the driver of the other vehicle who pulled out in front of him and was killed had a blood alcohol level of .24! He just recently replaced his 2 meter rig which was a casualty in the accident. He operated at W3LPL during CQWW phone and will do it again for ARRL phone. He is currently wrangling for position to locate a new tower on their new property in Union Bridge, MD.

K3MM, Ty, has been way too busy operating contests and taking care of PVRC business for much antenna work. He operated the VHF contest on 2 meters at K3MQH as usual. Ice on the antennas made things very difficult, especially on the microwave bands. Even with the ice, the South Mountain Contest Team came up with another record score, though not by much.

K3MM reports from the regular meeting that Bob, W2GG, has been appointed Membership Secretary and has been doing great things to further recruiting efforts with KE3Q. He briefly discussed recent decisions for the 5 million award program, including doubling of award points for operators and station owners for multi-op efforts, excluding the "single-op plus packet". No questions were raised from the group.

The search for a new NW Regional Chairman continues.

NW meetings are always held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8PM, with dinner beforehand. Meetings are currently being held at Legend's Restaurant in the Hampton Inn, located at the intersection of I270 and Rt 85 in south Frederick, MD.

PVRC NE REGIONAL MEETING by Dave Baugher, WR3L

The NE regional meeting was held on Wednesday, January 21st at 7:00 PM at the 1998 BARC Minifest at the Exhibition Hall, Timonium State Fairgrounds. A discussion was held concerning the list that was made by W2GG of the contesting logs that were sent to him. The NE region will be looking for operators in the region that don't have stations, due to restrictions or other reasons, to operate with active contest stations. Also, to be sure that the few stations that operate in the region are members and send the logs in for PVRC. Attending: WR3L, W2GG, K3MM, ND3F and N3OZD (first meeting).

PVRC DELMARVA REGIONAL MEETING by Dallas Carter, W3PP

The Eastern Shore Regional PVRC met on January 25th at 11:00 am at W3pp's. Attending were members: N3OC, NV3V, K3KZ, W3PP, W3BY, & W3DA and guests: K33Z, N3KNT, K23Z, W3KQ, & N3HUV.

After a review of the last meeting topics, Brian N3OC gave an update on the status of equipment available for a proposed new cluster node for this area. A discussion ensued, with several implementation options. Of these, the most interesting seemed to be the possibility of bringing the backbone from WR3L to St. Michaels on 220, and then from St. Michaels to

Seaford on 440. We have access to secure sites at both locations. Dallas had done link analysis showing that both links would provide solid communications with adequate margins.

Brian collected applications from several attendees that have made two meetings, and will be submitted for membership. Recruiting efforts are going well, and interest in contesting from the shore is very encouraging. It was great to get some of the older PVRC members like W3BY K3KZ and W3DA together to share their contest experiences with newer members and guests.

There was discussion of the, just over, 160 contest, and the upcoming Delaware QSO party. K3FT indicated that he may mobile over to put rare Kent county on for the affair, the first weekend of Feb. Our local radio club always has a field outing, and plans by the FD chairman KE3ZR, were discussed which would provide two stations primarily for contest type operations, with the third HF station, a VHF station and novice station for the more casual FD operation.

It looks as though contest participation from the shore will be increasing dramatically, and bringing in some new blood will be not only good for contesting, but good for PVRC. There will be a lot of help for the W3PP m/m efforts, and the additional input from individual sweepstakes efforts will also help bolster the club aggregate. There will be an informal meeting at the end of February during the DX contest at W3PP.

THE FIRST EASTERN SHORE MEETING by Brian McGinness, N3OC, Vice Pres

The first Eastern Shore region meeting was held at W3PP on Sunday, 12/28/97 at 12 noon (just after the Stew Perry contest). In attendance were: W3PP, N3OC, WB4FDT, W3BY, NV3V, N3WDL, W3KQ, W3OR, N3HUV, KE3ZR, NW3Y and KE3ZZ.

Dallas gave a brief tour of his new station and towers. In fact, the meeting was held in his just-completed building housing the new station, bathroom, kitchen and bunkroom.

N3OC gave a presentation on PVRC and it's regions, it's membership requirements, and club competition. The other purpose of the organization of the eastern shore testers is to assist Dallas in staffing W3PP for the various contests.

A general discussion on how to improve the packetcluster situation on the shore was held. Since AA1K will go QRT in the future, it was agreed by Chick that the beam at the Seaford (SFD) site would be redirected toward WR3L, and the rig would be QSYd to Dave's 2-meter user frequency. At the same time OCMD would be QSYd (it uses crystals that have to be ordered) to the same freq, essentially moving the whole region to Dave's user freq. This is a temporary fix until a real backbone can be built on whatever towers we have available. There is a tower in St. Michaels we may be able to use, and Tinsley is going to be putting up a 500 foot tower somewhere near Seaford in the future.

W3PP adds: Next eastern shore meeting is Sunday, 1/25/98 at 12 noon at W3PP in Laurel, Delaware.

PVRC DINNER ROVERS (aka CENTRAL SUBREGION MEETING) by Jack Hammett, K4VV
Info: [\[email protected\]](#), 703-281-1308 or cluster

On December 17th, an informal dinner meeting was held at Michaelangelo's Restaraunt in Annapolis, MD. The location was picked to make possible the attendance of friends from the Eastern shore and from New Jersey. PVRC members attending were Marty/W3YOZ (who served as host--making arrangements), John/K4IQ, Bill/N3RR with wife Barbara, K3LYW/Norm with wife Harriet, Ike/W3IKE, and Jack/K4VV. The visitors included Tinsley Meekins/K3RUQ, John Williams/K8JW, Ron Grandmaison/W4VR, and Charlie Gyurina/K2BU (FRC member from New Jersey). Themes of discussion were 160m activity (as most of the participants meet on 160m), towers, antennas, and the upcoming contests. We had a great meal and some fine fellowship. (Article received by editor in December. Sorry. Editor.)

On January 21st, an Informal dinner meeting was held at La Bergerie in Old Town Alexandria. Attending were Marty/W3YOZ (host), John/K4IQ, John Wick/W1HIR, and Jack/K4VV. We enjoyed a great meal and discussed W1HIR's experiences at Collins Radio during '63 - '70, and several antenna projects.

PVRC/SWVA MEETING MINUTES, 12/12/97 by John Mitchell, K4IQ

The second formal meeting for SWVA was held on January 12th at Denny's Restaurant in Salem, VA 1800-2100. It was attended by K4IQ, John; W4YE, Buddy; K1GG, Gordon; and N4GU, Mike.

Meeting Agenda: The meeting began after dinner and small talk with another show and tell by Buddy W4YE (ex-W4YZC), of memorabilia from the PVRC of twenty-five years ago, including an interesting photograph showing a gathering of PVRC members taken in Washington in 1951, which Buddy had received from W4KFC. We proceeded to discussions of the meetings schedule for the SWVA Chapter. The group decided to stay with monthly meetings from September through May, with cookouts planned during the summer at members' homes to socialize and get to see each others' stations. We also discussed having a meeting at Virginia Tech so Mike, N4GU, could give us a tour of the University antenna range and state of the art satellite tracking facility. We also discussed the special summer meetings in the DC area, agreed to try to car pool up for them, and concluded we should extend the invitation for any PVRC'ers from outside this area to stop in on our meetings, if possible.

We discussed recruiting efforts, and Mike reported that 5B4AFM, a noted contester, was currently at Tech, and he would try to contact him regarding possible participation in upcoming events from SWVA. Gordon, K1GG, included a nice plug for the new chapter in his monthly newsletter for the Southwest Virginia Wireless Association, over which he presides. One possible recruit (Novice to Extra in one year) was invited to tonight's meeting but was unable to attend. We decided that we could best grow our Chapter's membership ranks by selectively inviting potential contesters to participate in meetings and contests at our established stations.

We discussed our participation in the ARRL 160M contest, with some good efforts this year by several chapter members. We also agreed to pursue

forming a SWVA team for the upcoming NA QSO Party tests in January. K4IQ brought along PVRC QSL card samples and encouraged those interested to get their order in asap. Mike, N4GU, related his incredible trip to Dayton last year, with two hams, a rig, and a hamstick - going up and back from Blacksburg, VA in the same day! They worked CW/Mobile on 40 meters to try to stay awake/alive on the long ride home.

We set the next meeting for January 9th, at 6:00 PM at the Texas Steakhouse on Rte 419 in SW Roanoke county.

1/9/98 PVRC/SWVA MEETING MINUTES, by John Mitchell, K4IQ

Site: Texas Steakhouse in SW Roanoke County, VA, 1800-2100

Attendees: K4IQ, John; W4YE, Buddy; K1GG, Gordon; N4GU, Mike, K3GX (ex-WA4RDI), Dave; WA4BKW, Bill; N4BTO, Nat; and KF4JFG, Philip.

Meeting Agenda: This was the best attended SWVA Chapter meeting to date, with all five charter members, and three guests present. After reading the minutes of the last meeting, we welcomed the three guests to their first PVRC meeting: Bill, WA4BKW operates many contests but his job requires he interrupt the longer contests (Bill is an announcer for the local National Public Radio station) Great voice for SSB, Bill! Nat, N4BTO, is an EE professor at Virginia Tech, and got the cw bug bad after coaching his children to get their licenses. Philip, KF4JFG, who just upgraded to Extra, helped out with Mike, N4GU's, effort in 160 M ARRL from the top of the engineering building at Tech a few weeks ago, and is eyeing an unused ridge line above his "down in the hole" qth.

We discussed recruiting efforts with several more good leads emerging in the SWVA area. Discussion then turned to the NAQP-CW which starts Saturday. Mike, N4GU took the lead in organizing and registering our five member team as the Southwest Virginia Contest Conspiracy. K1GG, K4IQ, W4YE, N4GU, and K3GX all plan to put in a full effort. We will also plan to be active during the SSB NAQP in two weeks. K4IQ, and W4YE were also pretty definite for the CQWW 160-CW test, and K1GG is going to try to get a beverage up before then, as N4GU contemplates mounting another assault on the roof of the engineering building with KF4JFG.

Gordon, K1GG, presented an idea to have a 2M roundtable net following the regular weekly net for his local club, the Southwestern Virginia Wireless Association. The purpose would be to get local PVRC members together and exchange recent information, plus act as a beacon for prospective testers that there is organized contest activity in the area. We adopted this idea enthusiastically, and plan to evaluate the first month's "PVRC SWVA Beacon" at the next Chapter meeting.

Buddy, W4YE, closed out the formal meeting with some more snapshot "blasts from the past," with extra credit to those who successfully identified famous dx'ers and testers from his seemingly inexhaustible supply of vintage snapshots. We decided to hold the next Chapter meeting at 6PM on Friday the 13th of February, at Denny's in West Salem, VA.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

This issue catches up on some meeting minutes that I missed as the result of Christmas travel (and my messing up). I hope this will not affect my annual evaluation and salary review.

I expect that the March issue will be out late and you may not receive it until after the March 9th central meeting due to my two Caribbean operations. (1) I will make a serious effort as VP2EEI in the ARRL CW contest from the VP2EE site probably using 100 Watts instead of the usual QRP. I will be handicapped a bit by using only one radio but expect to generate plenty of PVRC points. PLEASE SPOT ME OFTEN! (2) The following weekend will be a casual effort as FS/K3DI at a non-ham condo. I'll try to get up suitable antennas and operate the French REF during the day and CQWW 160M WPX at night.

Attention VHF testers. Please alert me UP TO THREE MONTHS IN ADVANCE of coming VHF contests. I would like to highlight VHF contests in our Autocall contest column and perhaps the publicity may get some of the 3000+ readers to try contesting for the first time. I think that the casual operator needs to know the exchange format and which FM channels to check for activity.

W2GG has successfully gotten the latest data up and running on his PC and now maintains the PVRC data base. Please forward your new vanity calls (or any other corrections or changes) to W2GG so he can update the database. Also, Bob is collecting members' email addresses. Send via the packet cluster or internet to [\[email protected\]](#).

Howie, N4AF is getting pounded by members asking to be added or removed from the reflector. One of the ideas behind getting a standard majordomo reflector was that people could control their own subscribes & unsubscribes without waiting for human response. You control your subscription by sending an email to [\[email protected\]](#) with either subscribe pvrc or unsubscribe pvrc in the body of the email. An excellent writeup on usage of our reflector resides at www.qth.net.

John, N4MM, received two nice certificates from the UBA for the 1997 UBA Contest. He was first place winner for 20 meters in the USA for both phone and cw. His phone score was 7074 and CW was 5019.

Don, W4ZYT, [\[email protected\]](#), advises that the Tidewater Colony area code has changed to (757). A new meeting location is D&M Seafood, corner of Newtown Road and Virginia Beach Blvd. Take I-64 to Newtown Road exit NORTH. Cross over Virginia Beach Blvd - restaurant is on right just past the intersection. Meetings are 3d Tuesday with dinner at 1830 and meeting at 1930 in conjunction with monthly Virginia DXCC meeting.

The PVRC REFERENCE PAGE has been squeezed out of this issue. I had said that the reference page would be included at the end of every issue which goes to show that nothing is forever. Let's say that I will drop the reference page if space is needed but not drop it on two consecutive months.

SCORES by Dave Blanchard, N3II [\[email protected\]](#)

Please send your scores to N3II and the required results to the contest

sponsor.

ARRL VHF SS RESULTS 1/28/98 #3

CALL	BND	QSO	MULTS	TOTAL
** SINGLE OPERATOR				
K3DNE	5	527	133	100,548
K2UOP		384	136	85,816
K3ZO	2	457	88	40,216
K3IXD	3	182	34	6,970
W3GN	2	62	23	1,426
W2YE	3	47	25	1,325
N3UN	3	101	11	1,221
W2GG	2	53	18	1,098
W3EMH	3	55	16	896
N4TL	1	27	17	459
N4MM	1	30	9	270
N3II	1	48	4	192
** ROVER				
ND3F		775	143	270,000
W3EKT/4		363	115	50,370*
*zero for PVRC				
14 LOGS		TOTAL		510,437
LAST YEAR - 1997				
--1997 Totals-----Entries---Total-				
UNLIMITED CATEGORY				
MT AIRY VHF R C		57	2,893,897	
NORTHERN LIGHTS RS		56	498,443	
ROCHESTER (MN) ARC		55	17,685	
MEDIUM CATEGORY				
NORTHEAST WEAK SG		46	2,212,377	
ROCHESTER VHF GRP		46	1,576,455	
POTOMAC VALLEY RC		7	280,106	

CQ 160M CW RESULTS 1/28/98 #2

CALL	QSO	ST	DX	SCORE
** SINGLE OP HIGH POWER				
W3AO	1200	58	56	500,000
W4MYA	960	57	41	296,058
K2AV	786	55	43	227,458
N4RV	688	56	36	197,432
K3SV	673	54	28	150,470
K4ZW	612	53	28	137,295
N4CW	430	0	0	68,835
N3II	409	50	17	66,598
W3AZ	302	48	15	46,557
K4VV	237	45	9	30,024
W3GN	214	41	4	21,915
W2YE	152	38	8	17,664
N4MM	116	39	6	13,725
W3KN	69	25	2	4,347
** SINGLE OP LOW POWER				
K1HTV	816	57	28	178,670

W4RM	512	50	6	63,000
W3CP	256	44	4	27,072
WA4DAI	205	44	4	21,888
N3UN	174	37	1	14,592
WR3L	153	36	3	13,416
W4VC	109	33	2	7,820
W4SD	118	26	0	6,370

** SINGLE OP QRP

WK3I	471	45	11	67,095
WD3P	162	29	0	10,179

** MULTI OPERATOR

N3OC	807	52	39	208,000
W2GG	422	54	31	105,995
N3NT	344	52	22	66,896
W3HVQ	217	45	17	38,006
WA4QDM	223	43	7	26,000

29 LOGS TOTAL 2,633,377

Operators:

N3OC	N3OC	WV3B
W3AO	KE3Q	AT W3LPL

PVRC 50TH ANNIVERSARY QSO PARTY SCORES
[Ran from 2300 31Dec97 to 0100 1 Jan98]

So far, the overall high score in PVRC is ND3F; and each of the seven non-PVRCers qualify for a certificate. Anyone else out there with a score? Send any and all scores to W3LEO: either at [\[email protected\]](#), via the PacketCluster, or to Leo Boberschmidt, 3928 Denfeld Court, Kensington, MD 20895.

Call CW SSB W3GRF Score

PVRC Members:

ND3F	66	1	4	173
K3MM	64	12	3	170
N3RR	49	30	3	158
W3GRF *	79	-	-	152
W4YE	52	-	3	134
K1HTV	54	14	1	132
W3ZZ	52	-	3	128
W6UM	48	4	1	110
W3TMZ	37	-	3	104
K3TM	28	-	2	76
W3UJ	29	-	1	68
K4QPL	24	-	1	58
K3ZO	22	-	1	54
WR3L	19	-	-	38
N4AF	16	-	-	32
W3LEO	-	30	-	30
N4S *	4	4	1	22
N4QQ	5	2	1	22

Non PVRC Members:

W4MLA [FL]	33	-	2	86
NA2Q [NY]	24	-	3	78

K2NJ [NJ]	15	-	4	70
OE2BZL [OE]*14	-	2	48	
W1SKZ [MA]	10	-	1	30
JA0DAI [JA]*9	-	1	28	
K4BAI [GA]	5	-	-	10

*

W3GRF - operated by W3MC [ALL calls were W3GRF, maybe points are 790].

N4S operated by N4MM.

JA0DAI - was with XW operation; sent log via e-mail before going to XW.

OE2BZL was Knut/DK5AD, operating from his holiday QTH.